



Bertie Thompson

1887-1918

Bertie was born in Earlsheaton on 26th June 1887 and baptised at St. Peter's Church on 4th April 1888. His father was Smith Thompson, a Teamer born in Carlton near Selby, Yorkshire in 1859 and died in 1938. His mother was Amelia (nee Robinson) born in Uttoxeter, Staffordshire in 1859 and died in 1918. They were married on 14th August 1880 at All Saints Church, Dewsbury.

Their other children were; Frederick Arthur, born in 1881, William Henry, born in 1883, Charlie, born in 1885, Edith Annie, born in 1889, John Edward, born in 1891, Joseph, born in 1896 and was killed in action on 11th April 1918, Elsie May, born in 1898 and Smith, born in 1902.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at Low Road, Earlsheaton, in 1901 at 51, Bright Street, Dewsbury and in 1911 at 50, Bolton Yard, Batley Carr, Batley.

Bertie was employed as a Starch Hand at Slade and Bullocks Confectionery Works and was a sidesman at Holy Trinity Parish Church, Batley Carr, where he was married to Elsie Alice Ethel Rudland (born in 1883 and died in 1954) on 17th April 1911. They lived at 11, Maxwell Avenue, Salter Square, Batley Carr and did not have any children.

He enlisted on 5th September 1916 into the Highland Light Infantry serving as Private 242034 and later as Private 270652 in the 17th Battalion Royal Scots. He was killed in action in France on 25th March 1918 during the German Spring Offensive (*Der Kaiserschlacht*). His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Pozieres Memorial to the Missing. Bertie was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Pozieres Memorial relates to the period of crisis in March and April 1918 when the Allied Fifth Army was driven back by overwhelming numbers across the former Somme battlefields, and the months that followed before the Advance to Victory, which began on 8th August 1918. The Memorial commemorates over 14,000 casualties of the United Kingdom and 300 of the South African Forces who have no known grave and who died between 21st March to 7th August 1918.

Bertie is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the War Memorial in All Saints Church, Batley Carr and on the Batley War Memorial.

In Memory of

Private

Bertie Thompson

270652, 17th Bn., Royal Scots who died on 25 March 1918

Remembered with Honour

Pozières Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

